

REMARKS

Entry of the above amendment is respectfully requested.

The specification and the abstract have been amended to comply with formal requirements for U.S. patent applications. The amended claims 2-3, 6, 8-9, 11-18, 23, 25-26, 29-31, 35-36 and 38-39 are substantially similar to original claims 2-3, 6, 8-9, 11-18, 23, 25-26, 29-31, 35-36 and 38-39 as set out in the PCT International Application, with the exception that the claims have been amended to omit multiple dependent claims and to otherwise conform to U.S. practice.

Respectfully submitted,

PIPER RUDNICK LLP

Date:

July 7, 2004

By:

Michael L. Kenaga
Michael L. Kenaga
Reg. No. 34,639

PIPER RUDNICK LLP
P.O. Box 64807
Chicago, IL 60664-0807
(312) 368-4000